outermost layer and the innermost layer, is disposed as intermediate layer(s), between the outermost layer and the innermost layer, wherein the composite hollow fiber membrane has overall porosity of not less than 75% by volume, and wherein

the isothermal crystallization time τs of the resin used for the outermost layer and the innermost layer and the isothermal crystallization time τp of the resin used for the dense layer satisfy the following relationship:

$1 < \tau p / \tau s < 100$.

3. (Amended) The membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the outermost layer and the innermost layer have a mean microfibril length in a range from 0.5 to 10 μm and mean distance between microfibrils in a range from 0.1 to 0.6 μm.

4. (Amended) The membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the dense layer has a mean microfibril length in a range from 0.2 to 5 μm and a mean distance between microfibrils in a range from 0.02 to 0.3 μm.

5. (Amended) The membrane according to Claim 1, wherein each of the outermost layer and the innermost layer has a thickness in a range from 5 to 50 μm.

6. (Amended) The membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the dense layer has a thickness in a range from 3 to 15 μm.

7. (Amended) The membrane according to Claim 1, further comprising a cover layer of a hydrophilic polymer.

8. (Amended) The membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the initial water permeation amount is 25.0 $L/(m^2 \cdot hr \cdot kPa)$ or higher.

{Please add the following new claims:}

11. (New) The membrane according to Claim 7, wherein the microfibrils are divided into groups of a plurality of pieces that are bundled together and said plurality of micropores

are elliptic.

12. (New) The membrane according to Claim 1, comprising a cover layer of a hydrophilic polymer and wherein the microfibrils comprise bundled groups of microfibrils.

13. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein said layers comprise thermoplastic resin(s).

14. (New) The membrane of Claim 11, wherein said resin(s) are polyamide(s) or polyolefin(s).

15. (New) The membrane of Claim 12, wherein said polyolefin(s) are isotactic polypropylene, poly-4-methyl-1-pentene, poly-e-methylbutene-1 and polyvinylidene fluoride and mixtures thereof.

16. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the inner diameter is in a range from 50 to 5000 μm.

17. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the total thickness is in a range of from 30 to 200 μm.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to place them in more readable form and the substance of Claim 2 has been incorporated into Claim 1. Further, Claim 1 has been amended to recite "one or more dense layer(s)". Basis for this limitation may be found on page 10, first full paragraph, and page 17, last two lines through page 18, line 9 of the specification. Claim 7 has been amended to delete the limitation that the microfibrils are divided into groups of a plurality of pieces that are bundled together. The multiple dependency of Claim 8 has been removed. New Claims 11-17 have been added to preferred embodiments. Basis for new Claim 11 can be found on page 31, lines 2-5 and Figure 5 of the specification. Claim 12